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Agenda items 2 and 4

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

United States of America: draft resolution

Strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations, with particular reference to the provisions setting forth the powers and functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council with respect to making recommendations and coordinating United Nations system activities within the scope of its competence,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Noting that various funds, programmes, commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council carry out development programmes and activities, and that the Council provides policy guidance to and coordinates the programmes and activities of those subsidiary bodies,

Noting that the international financial and trade institutions also conduct development programmes and activities, often in the same countries and intended to serve the same people as those carried out by the Council's subsidiary bodies,

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Reaffirming the importance of strengthening cooperation, communication and collaboration between the Council and its subsidiary bodies, on the one hand, and the international financial and trade institutions, on the other, in order to maximize the effectiveness of their respective development programmes and activities,

Concerned that while the development programmes and activities of the financial and trade institutions and of the Council's subsidiary bodies are generally complementary or mutually supportive, there are instances in which improvements in their relationships may be indicated,

Noting in that connection that the Council and its subsidiary bodies could benefit from a direct exchange of views and experiences, drawing upon the particular expertise and comparative advantage of the financial and trade institutions,

Noting that the programmes and activities of the international financial and trade institutions could benefit in a similar fashion from any improvements in the operation, coordination and effectiveness of supportive Council programmes that might be brought about by the Council as a result of enhanced cooperation, collaboration and communication with those institutions,

Reaffirming the importance of the Council's high-level session with the international financial and trade institutions as a forum for advancing such enhanced cooperation, communication and collaboration, and for exchanging views on how the various participants could support one another's efforts,

Noting the need to improve the Council's high-level sessions with the international financial and trade institutions by better preparing for and focusing the high-level dialogue, thereby enhancing the quality, outcomes and value of the exchange of views,

1. Looks forward to the report and accompanying recommendations, to be prepared jointly by the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions, as set forth by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 1/ on an exploratory review to assess mechanisms, programmes and relationships at the field, headquarters and intergovernmental levels, with a view to identifying areas in which communication, cooperation and coordination could be improved;

2. Looks forward to the scheduling of a high-level meeting proximate to the semi-annual meetings of the Bretton Woods institutions with a view to benefiting, to the extent possible, from high-level ministerial participation and from the participation of heads of financial and trade institutions and other relevant organizations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to consult the heads of the financial institutions by early 1997 in order to explore the possibilities and practicalities of scheduling such a meeting. At a session of the Council, to be

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1/ See annex I to the resolution, para. 86.

held in early 1997, the Council should discuss the format, timing and possible agenda for the first such meeting;

4. Decides that, prior to the annual high-level policy dialogue between the Council and the international financial and trade institutions, and allowing sufficient time for preparation, the Secretariat should communicate to the financial and trade institutions a report summarizing the relevant issues and questions to be discussed at the session, with a focus on an agreed theme. That communication should be prepared in part based on the submission of issues and questions that member States could be invited to suggest to the Secretariat, which would then be taken into account in the preparation of the Secretariat's report to the institutions.